



Special Correspondence of The Evening Star.

PARIS, August 13, 1904.

I have just returned from the ancient province of Orange in the south of France, where I witnessed a very interesting production of "Andromache" with the music of Saint-Saens and of "Les Femmes de Blotz." The Theater d'Orange is the wonderful and antique arena where for many years have been given some of the chief oeuvres of French literature with casts of the best Parisian actors and actresses. Coquelin played in both pieces with the brilliant young Roumanian actress, Mme. Morena, whom it is said, Mme. Bernhardt considers one of the greatest geniuses in the dramatic profession. Few persons who have not visited Orange and had the pleasure of seeing one of these classic performances can realize the effect produced under the bright southern skies, with all the beauty of nature as a mise en scene. The acoustics in the outdoor theater were perfect, and the enthusiasm of the spectators, who came from all parts of France to assist at this rare festival, was wonderfully inspiring to the players. The country around Orange is charming, and there are all sorts of interesting places in the neighborhood to explore, including Capestang, Nîmes and Avignon, at one time the home of the popes. A little beyond there are delightful mountain resorts near Col de Dax in the Pyrenees which few globe-trotting Americans have visited.

To come back to Paris, the Pateux season on this lovely Isle opposite the capital has just closed with a cotillon. Once a week throughout the summer social campaign a cotillon has been danced by members of the beau monde. These affairs were organized early in the summer by the Vicomte de Léon-Jaume. On these occasions the women have worn their lightest and



Neglige for Early Autumn Wear.

prettiest small dinner gowns in conjunction with large picture hats. The combination was in many instances bewitching and gave scope for some really novel toilettes.

A Rose Gown.

A charming young married woman—and these dames are really the belles of the cotillions—appeared this week in a rose mouseline de soie, the skirt bordered with a ruche of tulle and roses, and the rest of the jupe was a series of bouffantes. The corsage was cut slightly decollete and bordered with tiny roses netting in tulle. A high black mouseline de soie sash fell on the skirt at the back and crossed over the shoulders brette fashion. Some of the



LOUIS SEIZE DINNER JACKET.

turn gown. Hunter's green serge forms the basis fabric. The skirt will be a "double decker," trimmed on each flounce with two rows of military black braid edged top and bottom with one row of a very narrow width. The bloused waist has the sleeves made in the long-shouldered effect— which style seems to be dying a hard death—and trimmed with broad tan suede so supple that on the waistcoat it is vertically tucked and held to the waist by means of tiny gold bullet buttons.

For the Season's End.

But there are long hot days before the cloth gown will be comfortable, and for an inexpensive wash frock to help out the passe summer toilet I would recommend the making of a white pin-stitched lawn. The amateur could fashion a gown of this kind with little trouble by trimming it with tiny frills and boudoirs of the lawn. There is scarcely a woman who has not picked up at the summer sales some lengths of silk, crepe or challie to make into negliges for the winter. These negliges are really economical affairs, for, as de from the delightful, restful feeling that results from exchanging the street dress for the walking gown will last twice as long. Clothes need rest and airing as well as people. We cannot afford to discard our frock after a day's wear, but we can revel in the luxury of a simple and dainty neglige.

And there is no especial reason why these little makeshifts should not be made attractive. Of course much depends upon the selection of goods of a high quality. White or cream is always safe, and nothing can be prettier than either.

CATHERINE TALBOT.

WOMEN BOOK BUYERS

SOME BUY BOOKS AS THEY DO OTHER HOUSEFURNISHINGS.

The Need of a Society for Educating Mothers in Juvenile Literature.

Written for The Evening Star.

Late summer and early fall always bring clearing sales in books, notably good editions of standard authors, and women are the most regular customers at these sales. If a man is a book worm or a book-lover he permits no one to buy for him, but if his library is merely part of a well-appointed home, the task of buying the books for it is generally allotted to the wife. While many wives and mothers are really discriminating book buyers and come to a store thoroughly prepared for their mission, many women, particularly those who have risen suddenly to positions of wealth, seem implicitly to the clerk. They see a certain style of binding which appeals to the eye, or which promises to match the hangings in their libraries, and then they ask the clerk whether the books are such as should be in every well-fitted library.

The woman who buys books not to furnish a library, but for her own pleasure, is the most discriminating buyer of all. She studies each edition of the same work as if she were selecting a life companion, and in truth some women make companions of their books. A condition which has brought many of these book lovers to the store recently is the publication of the current books in paper form.

This has never been done before, but the demand for current literature by the masses has induced some publishers to put out a new edition in paper binding within a short time after the cloth-bound edition appears.

The woman book lover takes as good care of the paper-bound volume as she would of one in cloth, and makes an excellent selection of paper-bound novels, velvet or silk, or whatever material strikes her fancy, and if she is a business woman she carries her favorite novel to and from work in this case.

Women buyers sometimes make extraordinary demands on the knowledge of the clerks. There is a woman who has forgotten the name of the story or its author, and forces the clerk to stand patiently while she tells the story of the book, describes the illustrations that caught her eye, and expects the clerk to recognize the book.

A large department store recently a woman said she wished to buy a book in which there was a photograph of a woman getting out of a carriage. It was the only book of identification which she could give, and the story was communicated from clerk to clerk until she had every man and woman in that department trying to recall a book which carried some such illustration.

Need Right Hints.

Another woman who gives the clerks trouble is the one who has become interested in some serial running in a popular magazine. She cannot understand why it is not issued in book form before the serial is concluded, and she makes the clerk's life a burden with her frequent calls.

Clerks in the better class of book stores say that a society should be formed for the education of mothers in juvenile reading. It is pathetic to see the money squandered on books utterly unsuited for childish minds. The most delicate trace of silver, the most beautiful waistcoat and cuffs formed entirely of the silver braid and was becomingly softened at the neck with a jabot of lace. A muslin blouse was provided to wear under the coat.

The other effective toilet was also in white, of a pailment that met with a plain skirt and long three-quarter jacket strapped hussar fashion with black and gold cord. The tatty little hat to accompany this military gown was a three-cornered white felt trimmed with cord and tassels. When the first cool days come there will be a smart cloth gown is hanging in the wardrobe ready for an excuse to take it out and air its beauty. The provident mother, for I want you to know that the word of which housekeepers think they have a monopoly belongs to the sartorially correct woman as well—will see to it these August days that such a frock is available. Here is a nice little suggestion for an autumn frock.

There are many discriminating mothers who are extremely careful about reading matter for their children. Such mothers, when known to the clerk, are permitted to take home new books to glance over. If the reading matter is not suited to the family circle the book is returned to the store. Mothers are, of course, drawn from the class of women who do not have the time to read aloud to their children, and yet do not like to trust the purchase of reading matter to nurse or governess.

New Bathing Headgear.

Mme. La Mode has apparently decided in her mind that she has put up with unsightly makeshifts long enough in the matter of bathing headgear, for the daintiest of little "poke bonnets" in shades to match the gowns have been evolved, and these are trimmed with big bows or rosettes of wash silk and, in the absence of the useful elastic, are tied coquettishly under the chin with wide ribbons. Even the Tam O'Shanter-shaped form of headgear is infinitely more becomingly made and more "modern" this year than last, and the most people prefer that it shall entirely cover the head to prevent the hair from becoming a cunning contrivance of sewing a few little curls from the stores of the coiffeur de dames into the front of the cap to take away the hardness of outline is not infrequently resorted to.

Cleaning of Statuettes.

Nothing takes the dust more freely than plaster objects, more or less artistic, which are the modest ornaments of our dwellings. They rapidly contract a yellow gray color of unpleasant appearance. Here is a practical method for restoring the whiteness: Take finely powdered starch, quite white, and make a thin paste with hot water. Apply when still hot with a flexible spatula or a brush on the plaster object. The layer should be quite thick. Let it dry slowly. On drying the starch will have scaled off. All the soiled parts of the plaster will adhere and be drawn off with the scales.

THE QUEST OF BEAUTY

The Dangers of the Too Popular Girl.

PAYS DEARLY TOO OFTEN SHE BECOMES FAGGED OUT AND RUINS HER DIGESTION.

Over-Indulgence in Tea and Candy—Virtue of Moderation.

Written for The Evening Star by Katherine Morton.

Nine times out of ten the girl who is a social favorite pays dearly for being what she is. Unless she knows how to use her privilege, instead of abusing it, she is in danger of wrecking her beauty long before the natural wreck of age sets in, and her health suffers most seriously. I have put beauty before health in the hope that it might catch some reader's eye. The wreck of health is the cause of the beauty wreck, but it seems to be a less interesting matter to most.

The whole secret of the thing is that the popular girl is the girl who "goes," and our Americans never seem to realize the limitations of their going powers. To stay is as yet an unlearned art. When an American girl takes to society she does so in the same reckless way that she takes to work, as if the amount accomplished were the only thing that counted. The other day I overheard some girls conversing on a train. I recognized them as two of the most popular members of an exclusive set. Bits of their conversation fell in silence when I could not help hearing them.

"I went to one lunch, three teas, a dinner and a dinner dance yesterday," one of them boasted.

"I can go you a breakfast and two teas better than that," the other retorted.

"You were going to the house of the drooping in carriage—in short, thoroughly fagged. The other, a wholesome, rosy-cheeked girl of barely twenty, looked fresh and charming. Evidently she had a fine constitution and the effects of too much society had not yet begun to show. Such a constitution is a real asset to a girl who is a social favorite. At the rate she described she would be middle-aged before thirty.

Tea Tipping Vice.

Tea tipping has come to be a vice with the woman of fashion. Our Americans have not always been addicted to the drink as they are today. The custom of using it has increased with the fad for aping English manners. It seems foolish to say that one social cup of afternoon tea, served in the tiny cup which is prescribed, could harm any one with sound nerves; but few women stop at one cup. The woman who is in demand at functions spends her late afternoon going from house to house, stopping at each one just long enough for the cup of tea with its accompanying water or slices of cake. She is so busy that she has made the rounds she has had enough tea to give her a restless night. Every bad night is a black mark against the achievement of her life.

Nor does the drinking of tea cease with the afternoon calls. The use of tea becomes a habit just as the use of alcohol does. I have often heard a lady who has the utmost horror of flau, would rather die of a snake bite than take a single drop of alcohol. She is so passionately as passionately as any drunkard to her bottle.

She is seriously afflicted with insomnia and I have known her say many a night upon retiring, "Dear me, I'm so nervous I know I can't sleep; I'll just have a nice cup of hot tea to soothe me."

"Soothe her! Fancy it! As well rub a cat's paw up her hair as offer her the tea," one stout woman said to me. It soothes them, stimulates them, causing a bracing sensation temporarily; in the end comes the reaction, and the nerves collapse, tired and weaker than in the beginning. I should never be so bigoted as to preach total abstinence from tea to a woman who has made the rounds she has had enough tea to give her a restless night. Every bad night is a black mark against the achievement of her life.

Overuse of candy is ruining the teeth and digestion of the favorite. Her candy is sent to her in five-pound boxes. It stands in her room every day of the week, and she eats it continually, not so much because she wants it as because it "is around." Meanwhile, what is going on?

Some of the sweet substance, pushing its way into the tiny crevices that are left by the decay of the teeth, it causes a bracing sensation temporarily; in the end comes the reaction, and the nerves collapse, tired and weaker than in the beginning. I should never be so bigoted as to preach total abstinence from tea to a woman who has made the rounds she has had enough tea to give her a restless night. Every bad night is a black mark against the achievement of her life.

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disturb your rest, even though you are not conscious of the fact.

The girl who is invited to many dances must take great pains to avoid a cold, for the exercise brings on a perspiration, and the cold which follows is enjoyed in a low-necked gown. Have a pretty little wrap ready for the intervals between dances.

Exercise Moderately.

Your popularity is very likely to lead you to the abuse of one of the best things in the world—exercise. You may be invited to join a country club, to go golfing, tennis playing, bowling, day after day. There is always a merry party and you go for the sake of the fun, even when you are tired or not well. Don't. Too much exercise does the most harm to a girl as had as none at all. Have the courage to refuse even the most tempting invitation if you know you are not equal to the effort. You won't lose your popularity by being moderate in your gaiety.

A great many of the girls who dance until late hours and are not able to get up the next morning, and this is perilous. No woman ought to entertain any idea of remaining pretty unless she allows herself at least eight hours' sleep a night. Besides this, there should, if possible, be a little rest time in the middle of the day. Lie down if you can; if not, sit down, relax every muscle, close the eyes and doze.

Perhaps it is outside the province of this little leaflet to say that the girl who is the popular girl—and yet, if you think, you will see that it is a danger to beauty. It is the risk of being spoiled. Did you ever see a really successful girl who was entirely pretty? Think again. Did you?

Useful Suggestions.

If the corns on your little toes are in their beginning, probably can head them off by the persistent use of vasoline. Rub it into the afflicted spot every morning as regularly as you put on your shoes, and again at night. Are you sure your shoes are comfortable enough? It is a common mistake of the shoe that most women make a mistake when buying.

Orris root is recommended for a dry shampoo, but I never have seen it used with success. It is inclined to stick to the hair, and is very difficult to wash out. A dry shampoo is apt to be the aftermath of the orris root dusting. So, if you wish to perfume your hair with your favorite odor, which, by the way, is a good idea to indicate refinement and dainty tastes in general, put a few drops of violet extract on your brush. The fragrance will penetrate the hair every time you run the brush over it.

Light green should be most becoming to pale gold hair, and it will also be suitable to fair skin. Green and blue always bring out the gold in any hair.

FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

LITTLE ARTICLES WHICH THEY WILL APPRECIATE.

The Newest Receptacles for Carrying Books and Lunch.

The opening of school brings to the mother a constant succession of small expenses. While she is taking care wisely of her own simple equipment as a school girl, in the bottom of her heart she indulges a secret pleasure in outfitting the youngsters to the best of her financial ability.

For carrying books to and from school, especially for parents whose lessons must be prepared at home, there is a strong sentiment in favor of a lightweight dress suit case. They are of the same size as the suit cases offered in the juvenile departments, and are by no means cheap, but will last indefinitely if a child is careful. They will hold not only the books needed at home, but all supplies in the way of drawing materials, pencils, etc., and the daily lunch, which is quite essential if the school has one session with a half-hour recess at noon. The same size suit case can be secured in the higher Japanese wickerware, but they are suitable only for girls, as they will not stand rough usage.

The very best suit case is too expensive a big net Boston bag is liked by the girls, but the boys cling to the strap.

Collapsible lunch boxes have given place to a more substantial article. For the boys there are boxes covered with black leather, which look like kodaks, even to the imitation shutters. The most popular lunch box for girls takes the form of a music roll.

A new combination pencil sharpener is now offered in a form which would delight any boy. It looks like a razor strap, and in one opening the pencil is revolved to cut away the wood. On another corner is a knife with an edge like a plane for cutting the lead to a moderate point, and the top of the strap is covered with sandpaper to bring the lead to a finer point for particular work.

A Pencil Case.

Chains of various lengths are offered to attach sponges, pencils and erasers to desks, and a pencil case, which should teach any child to be economical, has on one end a jeweled cap. When this is removed an eraser is disclosed. The case itself is quite long and is used to hold pencil stubs. With one of these a child can use the pencil left-overs from father's business. Other boxes for holding pencils and supplies come in the form of big lead pencils, huge pens with gold points and wooden Indian clips.

For the boy or girl who is attending business college there are small suitcases at 25 cents each, with a limit of a pound weight. The register is marked clearly—notebooks, pencils, letters and merchandise—and the would-be clerk by using one of these takes a practical lesson in mail order work.

Mountain pens have become so cheap that they are used quite generally by pupils in the higher grades and in business schools. This year of '04 especially for pupils is offered at a dollar. For children in the primary grades there is a very neat panel marked like that on a paint box, has the correct name of the colors.

The very best of all, especially for boys, is a pen, which is a very neat panel marked like that on a paint box, has the correct name of the colors.

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OLD-TIME FLOWERS IN FASHION.

They Last Longer and Fewer Are Needed—And They Are Cheapest.

Flowers that flourished in grandmother's garden are the fashion now. Folks who are staying in town, either from choice or necessity, are ordering hollyhocks, ranunculus, and other old-fashioned flowers like for decorations, and the garden about the big country places are filled with blossoms that bring back childhood's days.

Old-time flowers have many things in their favor. First of all, they are cheap, for they are easily cultivated. Then they are thorough decorative and, almost without exception, possess a pungent, telling odor that speaks of the earth.

Another thing in their favor, as a Broadway florist argues, is their lasting quality. By adding fresh water and a bit of salt each day the old-fashioned summer flowers will hold their form, color and fragrance for a week or more.

Then, a few of these flowers go such a long way. Americans are at last learning the art of arranging flowers properly. What could be more hideous than formal bouquets of flowers here and there in a house?

In Japan the art of arranging flowers is taught in manuals just as we teach the multiplication table here. Every girl there at a very tender age begins this study. Each day her task is to change the flowers in every room in the house. They tell appreciative beauty of the solitude in rural decorations, and I will never forget the expression on a high Japanese official's face when he came into my shop just after lunch in this country. I saw the boxes, and he said, "I have a very good idea of the sense of the term."

STYLES FOR THE FALL

Directoire Influence Will Be Strongly Felt.

LOUIS MODES, TOO

OLD FASHIONS MODIFIED FOR 20TH CENTURY TASTES.

Satin and Velvet Will Resume Old Vogue as Leading Fabrics.

Written for The Evening Star by Katherine Morton.

The fall season bids fair to develop into a veritable hodge-podge of fashions. The vogue of the 1830 and 1890 styles has by no means passed. Here and there their influence is seen in the early importations. But stronger than these influences are those of the directoire and Louis periods.

It is of the directoire styles that most of the new fashions are now taking. It is not out of place to inquire into what the Parisians wore at that period, the last of the eighteenth century and the first of the nineteenth. Contemporary artists left a sufficient heritage of portraits and idealistic paintings to show quite vividly how the women of the directoire period were gowned.

The most striking lesson to be drawn from this old record is that the women of 1804 would positively refuse to accept the directoire styles in toto. But to institute a few comparisons. Satin and velvet were the favorite fabrics of the period. The promise to be by all odds the best sellers of 1804-5, though both materials have become more supple, more pliable and infinitely less ostentatious. The directoire fabrics were heavy and could not stand alone. The satin of today clings like a treacherous friend, and velvet is also soft and adaptable.

The waist line of the directoire period was short and round. The shopper has only to look at the record to be convinced of the gradual rise in the waist line and the slow but sure disappearance of the exaggerated French or straight-front blouse effects. The French women of the directoire period wore a headdress or slipper strapped across the front as high as the walking shoes. The most delicate of the period is hardly popular with the modern woman, though sandals are enjoying a vogue for

the directoire cane, high, slender and graceful, was finished with a cord and tassels, or flowers tied with a bow of ribbon. It came in many styles, but the most artistic and it comes back to us in 1904 in the form of the parasol or the umbrella with the exaggerated handle.

Slashed Sleeves.

Unquestionably we will have this winter both the slashed sleeve and the somewhat shapeless sleeve, the modified directoire skirt, the full-pleated skirt, the heavy appliques and laces, the suggestion of the basque effect and the fichu. So much for directoire influence, but let us pray that the decollete gown of 1804-05 will not approach in boldness that of the directoire period. Much has been said against the low gown of the past season, but certainly it was modest when contrasted with that worn by the belles of 1790.

The Louis influences will give us both the full, pleated basque and the skirt to match, three-quarter sleeves, with huge turn-back cuffs, and waistcoats galore.

Louis Seize influence is shown in the dinner jackets which promise to be much worn this winter. Americans are going to more and more for the restaurant dinner, and for this the dinner jacket is practically essential.

Chiffon and Lace.

Chiffon in white, cream or the most delicate and subtle of colorings is combined with black Chantilly lace to the best effect. A dinner model shows a foundation of sun-pleated primrose chiffon, with appliques of black Chantilly lace and cuffs of Irish crochet lace joined with black velvet ribbon, while large black velvet buttons, so essential on a Louis coat, are used for trimming.

The richest of tullest lend themselves admirably to directoire styles, and a stunning combination shows brown tullest with gold and white for the color combination. The coat is fitted to the figure, with broad revers and a vest of gold tissue embroidered with tiny spangles and mock jewels. The skirt is the plain, full design that belongs to the directoire period, with two folds of gold silk above the hem. The trimming silk carries out the span-



TAFFETA GOWN ON DIRECTOIRE LINES.

both house and beach wear. The strapped effect in the front of the shoe can be seen on the new summer shoes, which are slashed to show the holsery beneath.

Blue and Orange.

One of the favorite color combinations of the period was a rich applique of flowers or orange in a pencil case, which should teach any child to be economical, has on one end a jeweled cap. When this is removed an eraser is disclosed. The case itself is quite long and is used to hold pencil stubs. With one of these a child can use the pencil left-overs from father's business. Other boxes for holding pencils and supplies come in the form of big lead pencils, huge pens with gold points and wooden Indian clips.

For the boy or girl who is attending business college there are small suitcases at 25 cents each, with a limit of a pound weight. The register is marked clearly—notebooks, pencils, letters and merchandise—and the would-be clerk by using one of these takes a practical lesson in mail order work.

Mountain pens have become so cheap that they are used quite generally by pupils in the higher grades and in business schools. This year of '04 especially for pupils is offered at a dollar. For children in the primary grades there is a very neat panel marked like that on a paint box, has the correct name of the colors.

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Overuse of candy is ruining the teeth and digestion of the favorite. Her candy is sent to her in five-pound boxes. It stands in her room every day of the week, and she eats it continually, not so much because she wants it as because it "is around." Meanwhile